DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 028 707 HE 000 628

Report of the University of Minnesota Task Force on Student Representation.
Minnesota Univ., Minneapolis.
Pub Date 2 Jan 69
Note-15p.
EDRS Price MF-$0.25 HC-$0.85
Descriptors-*Governance, *Higher Education, *Selection, *Student Participation, *Student Role
Identifiers-*University of Minnesota, University Senate

In May 1968, the President of the University of Minnesota appointed a task force to study the question of student representation in the University Senate and in individual campus assemblies, and to explore ways in which students might be elected to serve. The task force noted that although students were well represented on many committees, the University Senate remained largely a faculty body. It recommended incorporation of students as full participants in the Senate and Assemblies and increased student membership in Senate and Assembly committees. Specific recommendations were made regarding: the constituencies, election, term of office, and eligibility of student Senators; the number of students on various Senate committees and their selection and election; student Assemblymen; the number of students on various Assembly committees and their selection. (JS)

ED028707

REPORT OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

TASK FORCE ON STUDENT REPRESENTATION

January 2, 1969

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Task Force on Student Representation
Report

January 2, 1969

I. Introduction

The Task Force on Student Representation calls upon the University of Minnesota to commit itself to the principle of the widest possible participation of faculty, students, and administrators in University decision making.

In an institution which considers "the search for truth" its mission and exists within a society based on democratic principles, no one segment, or group of segments, should determine the institution's full potential for the attainment of truth.

The conception, shaping, and realization of an idea or an ideal must be the joint effort of the total community rather than isolated or separate elements of that community. We reject the concept that innovation, research, and creative thought are the exclusive domain of the instructor, the student, or the administrator.

The University must take as its model a partnership, a sharing of responsibility, rather than the fragmented power struggle represented by separatist walls protecting student power, faculty power, and administrative power.

A "community of scholars" cannot exist with groups claiming separate and absolute control over matters of mutual concern to the members of that community. Although the State of Minnesota through the University charter has placed the ultimate authority for the University of Minnesota in the Board of Regents, the Regents themselves appropriately and necessarily have chosen to delegate many responsibilities to the President and the University Senate. The President and the Senate have been committed to wide participation in the decision making processes of the University through many administrative and Senate committees. Faculty, administrators, and students have shared membership on Senate or administrative committees for over a half century. As the institution has developed, the range of committees and the number of persons involved in the deliberations of these committees have increased. Student representatives now number over 170 on various Senate and administrative committees on the various campuses. At least one Senate Committee presently has a majority of student members.

While a responsible student voice is heard on these committees, the Senate has remained a faculty legislative body. Administrators are seated without vote. Students may enter the Senate for discussions only when their Senate sub-committee has an issue before the Senate. They cannot vote on the policy matters that their efforts have brought before the Senate.

The exclusion of some elements of the academic community from greater involvement in the establishment of policy governing that community is unnecessary and undesirable in the future of that institution. A blend of modern insights and ideas as well as continuity and stability of proven traditions is necessary for the continued dynamic development of the University.

Our institution must offer the opportunity to those capable men and women who are willing to accept responsible roles in the governance of modern higher education whether these persons are administrators, faculty, or students. The emphasis in the future should be upon shared functions and joint responsibility for the total enterprise.

If we have educated our young people, if we assume that they are now and are to continue to be responsible citizens in our democratic society, and if we believe that the principles of a democratic society extend to the academic community, we must recognize students as full partners, and not just consultants in that community.

The Task Force on Student Representation recommends that the next step in the steady progression toward a true University Senate, rather than a faculty Senate, be the incorporation of students as full participants in the Senate and Assemblies, as well as increased student membership in Senate and Assembly committees.

Recommendations

II. Student Senators

A. Constituencies

For the purpose of electing members to the Senate, registered students shall vote within each of the following units of the University: (1) Agriculture, (2) Biological Sciences, (3) Business Administration, (4) Dentistry, (5) Education, (6) General College, (7) General Extension, (8) Law, (9) Liberal Arts, (10) Medical Sciences, (11) Pharmacy, (12) Technology, (13) Veterinary Medicine, (14) Duluth, (15) Morris, (16) Graduate (Twin Cities and Duluth), (17) University College, and (18) Mayo.

Candidates for senator shall be registered in the same unit from which they are being elected.

The registered students from each unit (except Morris, Duluth, and General Extension) shall elect by secret ballot one student senator plus one student senator for each one thousand (1000) registered students using the immediately preceding fall quarter enrollment figures. These enrollment figures shall be rounded off to the nearest thousand. (see appendix A)

Because they are distinct campuses, the registered students from Morris and Duluth shall elect by secret ballot two student senators plus one student senator for each one thousand (1000) registered students using the immediately preceding fall quarter enrollment figures (rounded off to the nearest thousand).

The General Extension student representation shall be a total of five (5) students.

B. Elections

The elections shall be held each Spring Quarter and students in the various colleges, schools, or campuses shall elect their respective representatives.

Each constituency shall establish its own electoral process and the various student governments or appropriate group may be asked to assist in the establishment of the electoral machinery. The electoral process for each constituency shall receive final authorization by means of a referendum by that constituency. Each constituency shall determine its own process for filling vacancies.

C. Term of Office

The student senator shall serve a one-year term and may be re-elected. No student senator shall serve over three consecutive terms.

D. Eligibility

Any student who is registered in the University is eligible to serve in the Senate.

E. Student Body Presidents

Each student body president from the three campuses shall be an ex-officio senator with voting privileges.

III. Students on Senate Committees

A. Number of Students on Senate Committees

With a few exceptions, the principle shall be established that on each Senate Committee the general membership pattern shall include five (5) students, i.e., three (3) students from the Twin Cities campus and one (1) each from Morris and Duluth. (see appendix B)

The exceptional Senate Committees are:

Senate Administrative Committee

There shall be three (3) students on this committee.

Senate Consultative Committee

There shall be nine (9) students on this committee.

University Committee on Tenure

There shall be no students on this committee.

Senate Judicial Committee

There shall be no students on this committee.

B. Selection and Election of Students on Senate Committees

Student senators shall serve as the selection committee which shall elect its own chairman and establish its own procedures for students to serve on Senate Committees. These senators shall be eligible to be selected.

Membership on the committees shall be selected with reasonable regard to achieving proportional representation of the several constituencies and avoiding excessive overlap of individual committee memberships.

The student senators from each campus shall constitute the selection committee for each campus and they may establish sub-groups for the selection process.

The selection committees shall then submit their recommendations to the Senate Committee on Committees, which shall then submit the names to the President for appointments.

The selection committee for students on Senate Committees shall submit a list of names equal to the number of vacancies with an additional list of alternates of at least 25 per cent the number of vacancies.

Exceptions to this process are:

Senate Administrative Committee

The three (3) students shall be the student government presidents from each campus.

Senate Committee on Committees

Three (3) of the student members shall be the same three (3) students who serve on the Twin Cities Assembly Committee on Committees. There shall be one (1) student member from each campus of Morris and Duluth. They shall be elected by their respective student assemblymen.

Senate Consultative Committee

Seven (7) students shall be elected by the senators from the Twin Cities campus. One (1) student each from Morris and Duluth campuses shall be elected by their student assemblymen. At the time of their election, they shall be members of the Senate and serve a one-year term. They may be re-elected.

Senate Committee on Business and Rules

Three (3) of the student members shall be the same three (3) students who serve on the Twin Cities Assembly Committee on Business and Rules. There shall be one (1) student member from each campus of Morris and Duluth. They shall be selected by their respective assemblies.

IV. Student Assemblymen

A. Twin Cities Assembly

Student senators from the Twin Cities campus shall also serve as the student assemblymen for the Twin Cities Assembly.

B. Morris and Duluth Assemblies

The Morris and Duluth campuses shall determine their own election procedures for their student assemblymen.

V. Students on Assembly Committees

A. Number of Students

There shall be a minimum of three (3) students on any Assembly Committee which includes students. This is to aid in continuity of student participation.

The Morris and Duluth campuses shall be free to develop their own number of students to be on their Assembly Committees if it is to be more than the mimimum of three.

The exceptions to the minimum number of three (3) students on any Twin Cities Assembly Committee are the following committees:

Committee on Student Affairs

There shall be a student majority on this committee.

Campus Judiciary Committee

There shall be six (6) students on this committee.

Campus Foreign Student Committee

There shall be six (6) students on this committee, three (3) of whom shall be foreign students.

B. Selection of Students

Student assemblymen shall serve as the selection committee, which shall elect its own chairman and establish its own procedures, for students to serve on Campus Assembly Committees. These assemblymen shall be eligible to be selected.

Membership on the committees shall be selected with reasonable regard to achieving proportional representation of the several constituencies and avoiding excessive overlap of individual committee memberships.

The student assemblymen from each campus shall constitute the selection committee for each campus and they may establish sub-groups for the selection process.

The assembly selection committees shall submit a list of names equal to the number of vacancies with an additional list of alternates of at least 25 per cent of the number of vacancies. The selection committee shall report their lists of names in accordance with the appropriate procedures of the respective campuses. (see appendix C)

An exception to this policy shall be the three (3) student members of the Assembly Committee on Committees who shall be elected by the student members of the Twin Cities Assembly.

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X A

Student Constituencies

College of School	Attendance Fall, 1968	Student Senators
Agriculture (Forestry & H.E.)	2,564	1 + 3
Biological Sciences	85	1
Business Administration	891	1 + 1
Dentistry (Dent. Hygiene)	509	1 + 1
Education	2,867	1 + 3
General College	3,403	1 + 3
General Extension	(17,333)	5
Graduate School		
Twin Cities	6,964	1 + 7
Duluth	102	1
Mayo	614	1 + 1
Law	507	1 + 1
Liberal Arts	17,074	1 + 17
Medical Sciences (Med. Tech., Med. School, Mort. Sci., Occup. Th., Phy. Th., Nursing, P.H.)	1,447	1 + 1
Pharmacy	285	1
Technology	3,404	1 + 3
University College	47	1
Veterinary Medicine	238	1
U of M, Duluth	4,898	2 + 5
U of M, Morris	1,264	2 + 1
	47,163	72 + 3 student body presidents

Refer to Section II A for formula establishing student constituencies

A P P E N D I X B

Number of Students on Senate Committees

The following summary suggests the distribution of (Faculty - Administration - Students - Alumni) for the Committees of the Senate. The task force only addressed itself to the number of students on the committees. The Faculty, Administration and Alumni numbers were taken from the Committee on Committees latest report.

Senate Committee on Academic Standing and Relations (10-2-5-0)

Senate Administrative Committee (0-35-3*-0)

- University Committee on University Honors (6-3-5-0)
- University Committee on Printing and Publications (6-5-5-0)
- University Schedule Committee (6-4-5-0)

Senate Committee on Committees (8-0-5-0)

Senate Consultative Committee (9-0-9-0)

- University Committee on Business and Rules (8-2-5-0)

Senate Committee on Educational Policy (10-2-5-0)

- Council on Liberal Education (12-1-5-0)
- University Committee on Extension (9-3-5-0)
- University Committee on Computing Facilities (9-3-5-0)
- University Committee on Instructional Materials (8-2-5-0)
- University Committee on Summer Sessions (9-2-5-0)

Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs (6-0-5-0)

- University Committee on Tenure (7-1-0-0)

Senate Judicial Committee (5-0-0-0)

Senate Library Committee (8-1-5-0)

Senate Committee on Research (8-4-5-0)

- University Committee on Use of Human Subjects in Investigation (7-2-5-0)

Senate Committee on Resources and Planning (9-5-5-0)

*the three (3) students shall be the student government presidents from each campus

A P P E N D I X 'C

Number of Students on Twin Cities Assembly Committees

The following summary suggests the distribution of (Faculty - Administration - Students - Alumni) for the Committees of the Twin Cities Assembly. The task force only addressed itself to the number of students on the committees. The Faculty, Administration and Alumni numbers were taken from the Committee on Committees latest report.

Assembly Committee on Business and Rules (6-3-3-0)

- Committee on Committees (6-0-3-0)

Assembly Committee on Educational Policy (8-1-3-0)

- Campus Committee on Educational Services (6-1-3-0)
- Campus Committee on Functions and Convocations (8-1-3-0)
- Campus Committee on Honors Programs (Minimum of three (3) students)
- Campus Committee on ROTC (9-1-3-0)

Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (8-3-3-0)

Committee on Student Affairs (10-1-13-2)

- Campus Judiciary Council (5-1-6-0)
- Campus Foreign Student Committee (7-5-6-0)

A P P E N D I X D

University of Minnesota
Task Force on Student Representation

Chairman

David K. Berninghausen, Professor and Director, Library School

Secretary

Ludwig J. Spolyar, Director of Student Activities Bureau

Members

Wilbert H. Ahern, Assistant Professor History, University of Minnesota, Morris

John N. Clausen, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Fred Friedman, President, Student Association, University of Minnesota, Duluth

Robert S. Hoyt, Professor and Chairman of Department of History

Michael Kennedy, Student Government, University of Minnesota, Morris

Joseph M. Kroll, President, Minnesota Student Association

Lonna M. Malmscheimer, Graduate School

Richard A. Nelson, Vice-President, Minnesota Student Association

Ralph G. Nichols, Professor and Head of Department of Rhetoric

Richard W. Ojakangas, Associate Professor of Geology, University of Minnesota, Duluth

Wallace A. Russell, Professor of Psychology

David B. Tramel, College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics

Donald R. Zander, Director of Student Unions

The Task Force on Student Representation held full day sessions on the following dates:

June 4, 1968
September 20, 1968
October 3, 1968
October 17, 1968
October 31, 1968
November 21, 1968
December 5, 1968
January 2, 1969

A P P E N D I X E

Letter of Appointment

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Office of the President
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

May 16, 1968

TO: Task Force Member

FROM: Malcolm Moos

SUBJECT: Task Force on Student Representation

Dear Colleagues and Students:

At the February 1, 1968 meeting of the University Senate, the Committee on Committees recommended that a task force on student representation be appointed by the President.

In line with this recommendation, I would greatly appreciate your willingness to serve on this Task Force. The request as defined by the Senate Committee on Committees is that the Task Force study the question of student representation in the University Senate and in individual campus assemblies, and explore ways in which students might be elected to serve. In addition, the Committee on Committees suggested that the question of student representation on Senate and Campus Assembly committees also be discussed.

I would appreciate receiving your report as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the fall quarter. The report will be transmitted to the Senate Committee on Business and Rules for review and referral to the University Senate.

If I and my administrative associates can be of service in any way, please feel free to call on us. Best wishes to you and the other members of the Task Force in this important work.

Sincerely,

/s/

Malcolm Moos
President

MM/ja

A P P E N D I X F

The following persons presented testimony at hearings of the Task Force

Fred M. Amram, Chairman, Senate Committee on Student Affairs Sub-Committee to Study the Senate Constitution

Rodney A. Briggs, Provost, University of Minnesota, Morris

Paul H. Cashman, Vice President for Student Affairs

David Cooperman, American Association of University Professors, Minnesota Chapter

Dick Donovan, member, Senate Committee on Student Affairs Sub-Committee to Study the Senate Constitution

Paul D. Gruchow, Editor, University of Minnesota Daily

Dale Lorenz, Graduate Student in Student Personnel

Maynard C. Reynolds, Chairman, Senate Committee on Committees